UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/010,748	11/13/2001	Robert Byrne	5681-08000	2963

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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2132	

DATE MAILED: 09/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C. (Rev. 10/03)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *13 November 2001*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-31* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-31* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *13 November 2001* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date *9/6/2005*.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

1.   The application having Application No. 10,010,748 has a total of 31

claims pending in the application; there are 5 independent claims and

26 dependent claims, all of which are ready for examination by the

examiner. Claims 1-31 have been examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35

U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section

made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country
or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for
patent in the United States.

3.   Claims 1-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being

anticipated by Netscape Directory Server Administrator's Guide,

Version 3.0, (herein referred to as Reference A).

4.   As per claim 1, Reference A depict a method comprising:

designating a location in a directory server (pg. 88, para. 2 lines

1-3);

providing attribute-related data comprising a filter expression (pg.

88, para. 3-7); and

selectively controlling access to an entry situated at the designated

location using the filter expression in said attribute-related data (pg.

125, para. 6, line 1; pg. 90, para. 1, line 1-3).

5.   As per claim 2, Reference A depict the method of claim 1, wherein:

the filter expression is selectively associated with a class of

operations (pg. 93).

6.   As per claim 3, Reference A depict the method of claim 2, wherein:

the filter expression is associated with a class of operations

selected from a predefined group comprising "add" and "delete"

classes of operations (pg. 93, para. 4-5).

7.   As per claim 4, the method of claim 3, wherein:

the predefined group further comprises the "search" class of

operations (pg. 93, para. 6).

8.   As per claim 5, the method of claim 1, wherein:

the filter expression is selectively associated with an attribute (pg.

125, para. 6, line 1; pg. 90, para. 1, lines 1-3).

9.   As per claim 6, the method of claim 1, wherein:

said selectively controlling comprises denying access to the entry if

the filter expression refers to more than one attribute type (pg. 88,

para. 7).

10.   As per claim 7, the method of claim 1, wherein:

said selectively controlling is repeated for each attribute value of an

attribute type being referred to in the filter expression (pg. 90, para. 4).

11.   As per claim 8, the method of claim 1, wherein:

said providing comprises providing data adapted to designate

attribute values in the form of a plurality of filter expressions, defined in

accordance with a predefined syntax (pg. 88, para. 7).

12.   As per claim 9, the method of claim 8, wherein:

the plurality of filter expressions are interconnectable by an AND

condition (pg. 196, table 8.2).

13.   As per claim 10, a directory server request processor comprising:

a filter execution processor configured to generate a result of a filter

expression (pg. 88, para. 3-7); and

an access control instruction processor comprising an interpreter,

wherein the interpreter calls the filter execution processor in response

to a filter indicating keyword in an access control instruction and

controls access through the directory server request in accordance

with the result of the filter execution processor (pg. 90, para. 4).

14.   As per claim 11, the access control instruction processor of claim

10, wherein:

the interpreter is capable of repetitive operation for processing a

plurality of interconnected filter expressions (pg. 196, table 8.2).

15.   As per claim 12, the access control instruction processor of claim

10, wherein:

the interpreter further comprises a filter interpreter for determining

whether a filter expression refers to more than one attribute type (pg.

88, para. 3-7).

16.   As per claim 13, the access control instruction processor of claim

10, wherein:

the interpreter is capable of at least partially repetitive operation for

processing each attribute value of an attribute type being referred to in

the filter expression (pg. 88, para. 3-7).

17.   As per claim 14, a computer readable medium comprising program

instructions computer executable to:

   receive a request to access an attribute of a directory server entry

(pg. 88, para. 2, lines 1-3).

   deny access if a criterion defined by a filter expression associated

with the attribute is not met by a first value of the attribute (pg. 91,

para. 4; pg. 92, para. 1).

18.   As per claim 15, the computer readable medium of claim 14,

wherein:

   the program instructions are computer executable to authorize

access if the criterion defined by the filter expression associated with

the attribute is met by each value of the attribute (pg. 90, para. 4; pg.

92, para. 1; pg. 98, para. 1).

19.   As per claim 16, the computer readable medium of claim 14,

wherein:

   the request to access comprises a request to delete the first value

of the attribute and wherein the filter expression is associated with

operations that delete values of the attribute (pg. 98, para. 1).

20.   As per claim 17, the computer readable medium of claim 16,

wherein:

   the criterion defined by the filter expression specifies that the

attribute cannot be deleted if a value of the attribute is the first value

(pg. 98, para. 1).

21.   As per claim 18, the computer readable medium of claim 14,

wherein:

the request to access comprises a request to add the first value of

the attribute and wherein the filter expression is associated with

operations that add values of the attribute (pg. 98, para. 1; pg. 90,

para. 1, 4).

22.   As per claim 19, the computer readable medium of claim 18,

wherein:

the criterion defined by the filter expression specifies that the

attribute cannot be added if a value of the attribute is the first value

(pg. 98, para. 1; pg. 90, para. 1, 4).

23.   As per claim 20, the computer readable medium of claim 1,

wherein:

the program instructions are computer executable to evaluate the

filter expression for each instance of the attribute and deny access if

any instance of the attribute fails to satisfy the criterion defined by the

filter expression (pg. 91, para. 4; pg. 92, para. 1).

24.   As per claim 21, the method comprising:

receiving a request to access an attribute of a directory server

entry,

denying access if a criterion defined by a filter expression
associated with the attribute is not met by a first value of the attribute
(pg. 90, para. 1, line 1-3; pg. 125, para. 6, line 1).

25.   As per claim 22, the method of claim 21, further comprising:

authorizing access if the criterion defined by the filter expression
associated with the attribute is met by each value of the attribute (pg.
90, para. 4; pg. 92, para. 1; pg. 98, para. 1).

26.   As per claim 23 , the method of claim 21, wherein:

the request to access comprises a request to delete the first value
of the attribute and wherein the filter expression is associated with
operations that delete values of the attribute (pg. 98, para. 1).

27.   As per claim 24, the method of claim 23, wherein:

the criterion defined by the filter expression specifies that the
attribute cannot be deleted if a value of the attribute to be deleted is
the first value (pg. 98, para. 1).

28.   As per claim 25, the method of claim 21, wherein:

the request to access comprises a request to add the first value of
the attribute and wherein the filter expression is associated with 25
operations that add values of the attribute (pg. 98, para. 1; pg. 90,
para. 1, 4).

29.   As per claim 26, the method of claim 25, wherein:

the criterion defined by the filter expression specifies that the

attribute cannot be added if a value of the attribute to be added is the

first value (pg. 98, para. 1; pg. 90, para. 1, 4).

30.   As per claim 27, the method of claim 21, further comprising:

evaluating the filter expression for each instance of the attribute and

denying access if any instance of the attribute fails to satisfy the

criterion defined by the filter expression (pg. 91, para. 4; pg. 92, para.

1).

31.   As per claim 28, a directory server comprising:

32.   an access control processor for processing an access control

instruction controlling access to a first attribute of a first entry wherein

the access control instruction specifies a filter expression (pg. 88, para.

1; pg. 90, para. 1, 4); and

a filter processor for generating a result of a filter expression for a

first value of the first attribute (pg. 88, para. 1; pg. 90, para. 1, 4);

wherein the access control processor provides the filter processor

with the filter expression and the first value and controls access to the

first attribute of the first entry based on the result of the filter

expression (pg. 88, para. 1; pg. 90, para. 1, 4);

wherein the other expression defines a criterion for values of the

first attribute (pg. 88, para. 1; pg. 90, para. 1, 4).

33.   As per claim 29, the directory server of claim 28, wherein:

the result of the filter expression is false if the first value of the first

attribute fails to meet the criterion defined in the filter expression (pg.

92, para. 1).

34.   As per claim 30, the directory server of claim 28, wherein:

the access control processor provides the filter processor with the

filter expression and the first value if a requested access to the first

attribute involves a class of operations associated with the filter

expression (pg. 93, para. 1-8).

35.   As per claim 31, the directory server of claim 28, wherein:

the result of the filter expression is false if any value of the first

attribute fails to meet the criterion defined in the filter expression (pg.

92, para. 1).

Conclusion

36.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier

communications should be directed to Nima Khomassi whose

telephone number is (571) 272-3775. The examiner can normally be

reached Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

37.   If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful,

the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron Jr., can be reached at (571)

272-3799.

38.   The fax number for Formal or Official faxes to Technology Center

2100 is 571-273-8300. On July 15, 2005, the Central Facsimile (FAX)

Number changed from 703-872-9306 to 571-273-8300. Faxes sent to

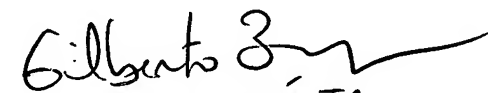the old number will be routed to the new number until September 15,

2005. After September 15, 2005, the old number will no longer be in

service and 571-273-8300 will be the only facsimile number recognized

for centralized delivery.

39.   Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained

from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system.

Status information for published applications may be obtained from

either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more

information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov.

Should you have any questions on access to the Private PAIR system,

contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-

free).

Nima Khomassi
September 7, 2005
Art Unit #2132

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